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TRANSFERENCE AND PRESERVATION OF UNIQUENESS

I. G. TODOROV AND L. TUROWSKA

ABSTRACT. Motivated by the notion of a set of uniqueness in a locally compact group G , we introduce and study ideals of uniqueness in the Fourier algebra $A(G)$ of G , and their accompanying operator version, masa-bimodules of uniqueness. We establish a transference between the two notions, and use this result to show that the property of being an ideal of uniqueness is preserved under natural operations.

1. INTRODUCTION

The notion of a set of uniqueness in the group of the circle arises in connection with the problem of uniqueness of trigonometric expansions and goes back to Cantor. It has been studied extensively in the context of abelian locally compact groups (see [13]). It was extended to arbitrary locally compact (not necessarily commutative) groups by M. Bożejko [5] and was shown in [19] to play a decisive role in questions about closability of multipliers on group C^* -algebras.

Motivated by W. B. Arveson's pivotal paper [2], a programme of establishing precise links between harmonic analytic and operator algebraic notions has been pursued since the 1970's, allowing the transference of fundamental concepts from Harmonic Analysis to the setting of operator algebras (see [22] for a survey). In addition, operator theoretic methods have been successfully employed to obtain results belonging to the area of Harmonic Analysis *per se* (see *e.g.* [8]). These ideas, along with questions about closability of operator transformers, led to the study of sets of operator uniqueness in [19], where it was shown that a closed subset E of a second countable locally compact group G is a set of uniqueness if and only if the subset $E^* = \{(s, t) : ts^{-1} \in E\}$ of $G \times G$ is a set of operator uniqueness.

Along with sets of uniqueness, the accompanying (and weaker) notion of a U_1 -set has been investigated in the literature (see *e.g.* [13] and [23]). A corresponding operator theoretic version, that of an operator U_1 -set, was defined in [18] and subsequently studied in [19], where it was shown that a closed set $E \subseteq G$ is a U_1 -set if and only if E^* is an operator U_1 -set.

It is known that, given a closed subset E of a locally compact group G , there exist two extremal closed ideals of the Fourier algebra $A(G)$ of G whose null set coincides with E . The notions of a set of uniqueness and of a U_1 -set are defined through these ideals. In this paper, we unify the two

concepts by defining and studying the notion of an ideal of uniqueness. We place in a general setting a number of concepts from Abstract Harmonic Analysis and Operator Algebra Theory, obtaining as special cases some of the main results of [18] and [19]. The approach we take allows us to consider sets of uniqueness and U_1 -sets as special cases of the same concept, and consequently to treat their properties in a consolidated manner.

We note that ideals of uniqueness in $A(G)$, not necessarily equal to any of the extremal ideals associated with a closed subset E of G , arise in the study of closability of maps of Herz-Schur type acting on the von Neumann algebra $\text{VN}(G)$ of G . In fact, the closability of such maps is characterised by whether or not a canonical ideal of $A(G)$ associated with the given map is an ideal of uniqueness [19].

In more detail, the content of the paper is as follows. In Section 2, we set notation and provide some necessary background, including Eymard's approach that allows one to view $A(G)$ as the predual of the von Neumann algebra $\text{VN}(G)$, much of which lies at the heart of our development. In Section 3, we define the notions of ideals of multiplicity and uniqueness, and their operator versions, namely, the notions of masa-bimodules of multiplicity and uniqueness. We establish a norm closure version of the main result from [1], showing that the compact operators in the weak* closed $L^\infty(G)$ -bimodule generated by the annihilator J^\perp of a closed ideal J of $A(G)$ can be approximated in norm by saturations of the elements of the intersection $J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)$, where $C_r^*(G)$ is the reduced C^* -algebra of G . As a consequence of this result, we show that J is an ideal of multiplicity if and only if the weak* closed $L^\infty(G)$ -bimodule generated by J^\perp is a masa-bimodule of multiplicity. A special case of this result is the theorem on transference of uniqueness for closed subsets of G established in [19, Theorem 4.9].

In [19, Corollary 4.14], it was shown that the property of being a set of uniqueness is preserved under taking (finite) unions. In Section 4, we generalise this result by showing that the intersection of two ideals of uniqueness is an ideal of uniqueness. The result is obtained as a consequence of an intersection identity about masa-bimodules (Theorem 4.2) that may be interesting in its own right; indeed, subtle intersection formulas for masa-bimodules were at the heart of operator algebraic applications to spectral synthesis found in [8]. We similarly extend the fact that the product of two sets of multiplicity is a set of multiplicity [19, Corollary 5.12] to a corresponding preservation property for ideals (Theorem 4.6), and establish preservation under inverse images (Theorem 4.14) which should be compared to [19, Corollary 5.7].

2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we introduce notation and include some background results that will be used in the sequel. For a Banach space \mathcal{X} , we denote by \mathcal{X}^* its

Banach space dual, and for a subspace $\mathcal{Y} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ (resp. $\mathcal{Z} \subseteq \mathcal{X}^*$), we let

$$\mathcal{Y}^\perp = \{\omega \in \mathcal{X}^* : \omega(y) = 0, \text{ for all } y \in \mathcal{Y}\}$$

(resp.

$$\mathcal{Z}_\perp = \{x \in \mathcal{X} : \omega(x) = 0, \text{ for all } \omega \in \mathcal{Z}\})$$

be its annihilator (resp. preannihilator). If H is a Hilbert space, we denote by $\mathcal{B}(H)$ the C^* -algebra of all bounded linear operators on H . Throughout the paper, G will denote a second countable locally compact group. We denote by $L^p(G)$, $p = 1, 2, \infty$, the corresponding Lebesgue spaces with respect to a fixed left Haar measure on G . The left regular representation $\lambda : G \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(L^2(G))$ of G , given by $\lambda_t f(s) = f(t^{-1}s)$, $f \in L^2(G)$, $s, t \in G$, lifts to a $*$ -representation of $L^1(G)$ on $L^2(G)$ via the formulas

$$\lambda(f)g(t) = (f * g)(t) = \int f(s)g(s^{-1}t)ds, \quad f \in L^1(G), g \in L^2(G), t \in G.$$

We denote by $C_r^*(G)$ the *reduced C^* -algebra* of G , that is, the closure of $\lambda(L^1(G))$ in the operator norm, and let $\text{VN}(G)$ be the *von Neumann algebra* of G , that is, the closure of $C_r^*(G)$ in the weak* topology. The *Fourier algebra* $A(G)$ of G [10] consists of all functions of the form $s \rightarrow (\lambda_s \xi, \eta)$, where $\xi, \eta \in L^2(G)$. It is known [10] that $A(G)$ is a semisimple, regular, commutative Banach algebra with spectrum G that can be identified with the predual of $\text{VN}(G)$ via the pairing $\langle u, T \rangle = (T\xi, \eta)$, where $\xi, \eta \in L^2(G)$ are such that $u(s) = (\lambda_s \xi, \eta)$, $s \in G$. We denote by $\|u\|_A$ the norm of an element u of $A(G)$.

Let

$$MA(G) = \{v : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : vu \in A(G), \text{ for all } u \in A(G)\}$$

be the multiplier algebra of $A(G)$. For each $v \in MA(G)$, the map $u \rightarrow vu$ on $A(G)$ is bounded; as usual, let $M^{\text{cb}}A(G)$ be the subalgebra of $MA(G)$ consisting of the elements v for which the map $u \rightarrow vu$ on $A(G)$ is completely bounded [7] (here, $A(G)$ is given the operator space structure arising from the identification $A(G)^* \equiv \text{VN}(G)$). We equip $M^{\text{cb}}A(G)$ with the corresponding completely bounded norm.

Let (X, μ) be a standard σ -finite measure space, that is, μ is a Radon measure for some locally compact σ -compact metrizable topology on X . For a subset $\alpha \subseteq X$, we denote by χ_α the characteristic function of α . For a function $a \in L^\infty(X)$, we let M_a be the (bounded) operator on $L^2(X)$ given by $M_a(\xi) = a\xi$. We set

$$\mathcal{D} = \{M_a : a \in L^\infty(X)\};$$

thus, \mathcal{D} is a maximal abelian selfadjoint algebra (masa, for short), acting on $L^2(X)$. Let $T(X) = L^2(X) \hat{\otimes} L^2(X)$, where $\hat{\otimes}$ denotes the Banach space projective tensor product. Every element $h \in T(X)$ is an absolutely convergent series $h = \sum_{i=1}^\infty f_i \otimes g_i$ for some square summable sequences $(f_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}, (g_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq L^2(X)$, and may be considered either as a function

$h : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ given by

$$h(s, t) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f_i(s) g_i(t),$$

or as an element of the predual of the space $\mathcal{B}(L^2(X))$ via the pairing

$$\langle T, h \rangle := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (T f_i, \bar{g}_i).$$

We denote by $\|h\|_T$ the norm of $h \in T(X)$. Note that $T(X)$ can itself be identified with the dual of the space \mathcal{K} of all compact operators on $L^2(X)$.

The space $\mathfrak{S}(X)$ of all *Schur multipliers* on $X \times X$ consists, by definition, of all measurable essentially bounded functions $\varphi : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that φh is equivalent (with respect to product measure) to a function from $T(X)$, for every $h \in T(X)$. If $\varphi \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$ then the map $h \rightarrow \varphi h$ on $T(X)$ is bounded, and its dual on $\mathcal{B}(L^2(G))$ will be denoted by S_φ . We let $\|\varphi\|_{\mathfrak{S}} = \|S_\varphi\|$. Note that S_φ leaves \mathcal{K} invariant and hence, if $\varphi \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$ then the map $h \rightarrow \varphi h$ on $T(X)$ is weak* continuous. It is easy to see that, if $\phi, \psi \in L^\infty(X)$ then the function $\phi \otimes \psi$ (given by $(\phi \otimes \psi)(s, t) = \phi(s)\psi(t)$) belongs to $\mathfrak{S}(X)$; thus, $T(X)$ has a natural $L^\infty(X)$ -bimodule structure given by letting $\phi \cdot h \cdot \psi = (\phi \otimes \psi)h$, $h \in T(X)$, $\phi, \psi \in L^\infty(X)$. In a similar fashion, $\mathcal{B}(L^2(X))$ has the structure of a \mathcal{D} -bimodule, arising from operator multiplication. A subspace $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(X))$ will be called a \mathcal{D} -bimodule, or a *masa-bimodule*, if $ATB \in \mathcal{U}$ whenever $T \in \mathcal{U}$ and $A, B \in \mathcal{D}$.

We will mostly be interested in the case where $X = G$ and μ is the left Haar measure. In this case, the predual P of the inclusion of $VN(G)$ into $\mathcal{B}(L^2(G))$ is a contraction from $T(G)$ onto $A(G)$ given by

$$(1) \quad P(h)(t) = \int_G h(t^{-1}s, s) ds, \quad t \in G$$

(see [19]). Hence, if $T \in VN(G)$ and $h \in T(G)$, then

$$(2) \quad \langle T, P(h) \rangle = \langle T, h \rangle,$$

where the first pairing is between $VN(G)$ and $A(G)$, while the second one is that between $\mathcal{B}(L^2(G))$ and $T(G)$.

If $u \in L^\infty(G)$, let $N(u) : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be given by $N(u)(s, t) = u(ts^{-1})$. The following fact [6] (see also [14], [21]) is at the base of subsequent transference results.

Theorem 2.1. *The map $u \rightarrow N(u)$ is an isometry from $M^{\text{cb}}A(G)$ into $\mathfrak{S}(G)$.*

3. TRANSFERENCE

In this section, we introduce ideals and bimodules of multiplicity and establish a transference result that permits passing from the former to the latter notion.

Definition 3.1. A closed ideal J of $A(G)$ will be called an ideal of multiplicity if $J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G) \neq \{0\}$. The ideal J will be called an ideal of uniqueness if it is not an ideal of multiplicity.

Remark. Let J_1 and J_2 be closed ideals of $A(G)$ such that $J_1 \subseteq J_2$. It is clear that if J_1 is an ideal of uniqueness then so is J_2 .

Let $E \subseteq G$ be a closed set. It is well-known that the ideals

$$I(E) = \{u \in A(G) : u(s) = 0, s \in E\}$$

and

$$J(E) = \overline{\{u \in A(G) : u \text{ has compact support disjoint from } E\}}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$$

are extremal in that if $J \subseteq A(G)$ is a closed ideal whose null set is equal to E (in the sense that $E = \{s \in G : u(s) = 0, \text{ for all } u \in J\}$), then $J(E) \subseteq J \subseteq I(E)$.

The property of E being a *set of uniqueness* was introduced in [5]. In [19], following the earlier literature on classical groups, sets that are not of uniqueness we called *M-sets*, and the accompanying notion of *M₁-sets* was introduced. It is clear from Definition 3.1, and the definitions made in [5] and [19], that E is an *M-set* (resp. an *M₁-set*) if and only if $J(E)$ (resp. $I(E)$) is an ideal of multiplicity.

We next introduce the operator version of the notion of an ideal of multiplicity.

Definition 3.2. Let (X, μ) be a standard σ -finite measure space. A weak* closed masa-bimodule $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(X))$ will be called a bimodule of multiplicity if $\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{K} \neq \{0\}$. The space \mathcal{U} will be called a bimodule of uniqueness if it is not a bimodule of multiplicity.

Remark Let \mathcal{U}_1 and \mathcal{U}_2 be weak* closed masa-bimodules such that $\mathcal{U}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{U}_2$. It is clear that if \mathcal{U}_2 is a bimodule of uniqueness then so is \mathcal{U}_1 .

Recall from [2] and [9] that a subset $M \subseteq X \times X$ is called *marginally null* if there exists a null set $N \subseteq X$ such that $M \subseteq (N \times X) \cup (X \times N)$. Two sets $\kappa, \kappa' \subseteq X \times X$ are called *marginally equivalent* if their symmetric difference $\kappa \Delta \kappa'$ is marginally null. A subset $\kappa \subseteq X \times X$ is called *ω -open* if it is marginally equivalent to a subset of $X \times X$ of the form $\cup_{i=1}^\infty \alpha_i \times \beta_i$, where $\alpha_i, \beta_i \subseteq X$ are measurable. The set κ is called *ω -closed* if its complement is ω -open.

Let $\kappa \subseteq X \times X$ be an ω -closed set. Analogously to the case of subsets of a locally compact group G , two weak* closed masa-bimodules were introduced in [2] and studied in the literature (see [9] and [20]):

$$\mathfrak{M}_{\max}(\kappa) = \{h \in T(X) : h \text{ vanishes on an } \omega\text{-open nbhd of } \kappa\}^\perp$$

and

$$\mathfrak{M}_{\min}(\kappa) = \{h \in T(X) : h \text{ vanishes on } \kappa\}^\perp.$$

To every masa-bimodule $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(G))$, an ω -closed set κ called its *support* was associated in [9], and it was shown that if \mathcal{U} is a weak* closed masa-bimodule with support κ then $\mathfrak{M}_{\min}(\kappa) \subseteq \mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathfrak{M}_{\max}(\kappa)$.

The property of κ being an *operator M -set* (resp. an *operator M_1 -set*) was introduced in [18]. We have that κ is an operator M -set (resp. an operator M_1 -set) precisely when $\mathfrak{M}_{\max}(\kappa)$ (resp. $\mathfrak{M}_{\min}(\kappa)$) is a bimodule of multiplicity.

Since compact subsets of G have finite Haar measure, if $L \subseteq G$ is compact then the function $\chi_{L \times L}$ belongs to $T(G)$ and hence, by Theorem 2.1, $N(u)\chi_{L \times L} \in T(G)$ for every $u \in M^{\text{cb}}A(G)$. Given a subspace $J \subseteq A(G)$, we let $\text{Sat}(J)$ be the closed $L^\infty(G)$ -bimodule of $T(G)$ generated by the set

$$\{N(u)\chi_{L \times L} : u \in J, L \text{ compact}, L \subseteq G\}.$$

It was shown in [1] that $\text{Sat}(J) = \overline{[N(J)T(G)]}^{\|\cdot\|_r}$.

On the other hand, given a subspace \mathcal{X} of $\text{VN}(G)$, we let $\text{Bim}(\mathcal{X}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(G))$ be the weak* closed masa-bimodule generated by \mathcal{X} . The following theorem was proved in [1].

Theorem 3.3. *If $J \subseteq A(G)$ is a closed ideal then $\text{Sat}(J)^\perp = \text{Bim}(J^\perp)$.*

Given an ideal $J \subseteq A(G)$, we are interested in when the subspace $J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)$ is trivial. For a subspace $\mathcal{Y} \subseteq C_r^*(G)$, we therefore define

$$\text{Bim}_0(\mathcal{Y}) = \overline{\text{span}}\{M_b Y M_a : Y \in \mathcal{Y}, a, b \in L^\infty(G) \text{ with compact support}\},$$

where the closure is taken in the norm topology. Note that, by the Stone-von Neumann Theorem, $\text{Bim}_0(C_r^*(G)) = \mathcal{K}$. In particular, $\text{Bim}_0(\mathcal{Y})$ is a masa-bimodule consisting of compact operators, for every subspace $\mathcal{Y} \subseteq C_r^*(G)$.

The following theorem can be viewed as a norm closure version of Theorem 3.3.

Theorem 3.4. *If $J \subseteq A(G)$ is a closed ideal then*

$$(3) \quad \text{Bim}(J^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K} = \text{Bim}_0(J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)).$$

Proof. We first recall some technical tools from [1], [16] and [19]. Let \widehat{G} be the set of all (equivalence classes of) irreducible representations of G . For $\pi \in \widehat{G}$, acting on a Hilbert space H_π , write $u_{i,j}^\pi$ for the function given by $u_{i,j}^\pi(r) = (\pi(r)e_j, e_i)$, where $\{e_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\pi}$ is a fixed orthonormal basis of H_π (and the index set \mathbb{N}_π has cardinality $\dim H_\pi$). If $h \in T(G)$ is compactly supported and $\pi \in \widehat{G}$, define [16]

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} h_{i,j}^\pi(s, t) &= \int_G h(sr, tr) u_{i,j}^\pi(r) dr; \\ \tilde{h}_{i,j}^\pi(s, t) &= \int_G h(sr, tr) u_{i,j}^\pi(sr) dr. \end{aligned}$$

If ϕ is a function on G , we denote by $\check{\phi}$ the function given by $\check{\phi}(s) = \phi(s^{-1})$, $s \in G$.

By [1, Lemmas 3.4 and 3.8], the functions of the form $\chi_{L \times L} h_{i,j}^\pi$ and $\chi_{L \times L} \tilde{h}_{i,j}^\pi$, where $L \subseteq G$ is a compact subset and $h \in T(G)$ is compactly supported, are Schur multipliers, and, by [1, Lemma 3.12],

$$(5) \quad h_{i,j}^\pi \chi_{L \times L} = \sum_k (\tilde{u}_{i,k}^\pi \otimes \mathbf{1}) \tilde{h}_{k,j}^\pi \chi_{L \times L},$$

where the convergence is in the norm of $T(G)$.

Let $\varphi \in T(G)$. Then there exists [19] a (unique) completely bounded map $E_\varphi : \mathcal{B}(L^2(G)) \rightarrow \text{VN}(G)$ such that

$$\langle E_\varphi(T), u \rangle = \langle T, \varphi N(u) \rangle, \quad u \in A(G).$$

Moreover, if $T \in \mathcal{K}$ then $E_\varphi(T) \in C_r^*(G)$.

By the remarks preceding the formulation of Theorem 3.4,

$$(6) \quad \text{Bim}_0(J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)) \subseteq \text{Bim}(J^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K}.$$

Let $T \in \text{Bim}(J^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K}$. To show equality in (6), it suffices to prove that if $h \in T(G)$ annihilates $\text{Bim}_0(J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G))$ then $\langle T, h \rangle = 0$. Suppose that $h \in \text{Bim}_0(J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G))^\perp$. By [1, Lemma 3.13], there are compact sets K_n , $n \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $h \chi_{K_n \times K_n} \rightarrow h$ in the norm of $T(G)$. Moreover, $h \chi_{K_n \times K_n} \in \text{Bim}_0(J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G))^\perp$ since the latter space is a \mathcal{D} -bimodule. If we show that $\langle T, h \chi_{K_n \times K_n} \rangle = 0$ then

$$\langle T, h \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle T, h \chi_{K_n \times K_n} \rangle = 0;$$

we may thus assume that $h = h \chi_{K \times K}$, for some compact set $K \subseteq G$.

Let $\varphi \in T(G)$ and $u \in J$. Then $N(u) \in N(J)$ and hence $\varphi N(u) \in N(J)T(G)$. By Theorem 3.3, $T \in \text{Sat}(J)_\perp$ and hence

$$\langle E_\varphi(T), u \rangle = \langle T, \varphi N(u) \rangle = 0.$$

Thus, $E_\varphi(T) \in J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)$. If $\varphi \in T(G)$ and $a, b \in L^\infty(G)$ are compactly supported then, using (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle M_a E_\varphi(T) M_b, h \rangle = \langle E_\varphi(T), (a \otimes b)h \rangle = \langle E_\varphi(T), P((a \otimes b)h) \rangle \\ &= \langle T, \varphi NP((a \otimes b)h) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Using (1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\chi_{K \times K} NP((a \otimes b)h)(s, t) = \chi_K(s) \chi_K(t) P((a \otimes b)h)(ts^{-1}) \\ &= \chi_K(s) \chi_K(t) \int ((a \otimes b)h)(st^{-1}x, x) dx \\ &= \chi_K(s) \chi_K(t) \int ((a \otimes b)h)(sr, tr) dr \\ &= \chi_K(s) \chi_K(t) \int_{K^{-1}K} a(sr) b(tr) h(sr, tr) dr \\ &= \chi_K(s) \chi_K(t) \int_{K^{-1}K} \chi_K(sr) a(sr) \chi_K(tr) b(tr) h(sr, tr) dr \\ &= \chi_{K \times K} NP((a \chi_K \otimes b \chi_K)h)(s, t). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\langle T, \chi_{K \times K} \tilde{h}_{i,j}^\pi \rangle &= \langle T, \chi_{K \times K} NP((u_{i,j}^\pi \otimes 1)h) \rangle \\ &= \langle T, \chi_{K \times K} NP((u_{i,j}^\pi \chi_K \otimes \chi_K)h) \rangle = 0,\end{aligned}$$

for all $\pi \in \widehat{G}$ and all i, j . By (5), $\langle T, \chi_{K \times K} h_{i,j}^\pi \rangle = 0$, and by [1, Lemma 3.14], $\langle T, h \rangle = 0$. \square

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 3.4 we obtain the following transference result.

Corollary 3.5. *Let $J \subseteq A(G)$ be a closed ideal. The following are equivalent:*

- (i) *J is an ideal of multiplicity;*
- (ii) *$\text{Bim}(J^\perp)$ is a bimodule of multiplicity.*

Proof. (ii) \Rightarrow (i) If $J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G) = \{0\}$ then $\text{Bim}_0(J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)) = \{0\}$ and, by Theorem 3.4, $\text{Bim}(J^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K} = \{0\}$, a contradiction.

(i) \Rightarrow (ii) If T is a non-zero operator in $J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)$ then there exist a compact subset K of G such that $M_{\chi_K} T M_{\chi_K} \neq 0$. Thus, $\text{Bim}_0(J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)) \neq \{0\}$ and, by Theorem 3.4, $\text{Bim}(J^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K} \neq \{0\}$. \square

For a closed subset $E \subseteq G$, let

$$E^* = \{(s, t) \in G \times G : ts^{-1} \in E\}.$$

Corollary 3.5 has the following consequences, originally established in [19].

Corollary 3.6. *Let $E \subseteq G$ be a closed set. Then*

- (i) *E is an M -set if and only if E^* is an operator M -set;*
- (ii) *E is an M_1 -set if and only if E^* is an operator M_1 -set.*

Proof. By [1, Theorem 5.3], $\mathfrak{M}_{\max}(E^*) = \text{Bim}(J(E)^\perp)$ and $\mathfrak{M}_{\min}(E^*) = \text{Bim}(I(E)^\perp)$. The claims now follow from Corollary 3.5. \square

4. PRESERVATION

In this section, we show that the property of being an ideal of multiplicity (resp. uniqueness) is preserved under some natural operations.

4.1. Intersections. Suppose that $E_1, E_2 \subseteq G$ are U_1 -sets (that is, that they are not M_1 -sets). It was shown in [19] that $E_1 \cup E_2$ is an U_1 -set. Since, trivially, $I(E_1) \cap I(E_2) = I(E_1 \cup E_2)$, this result equivalently says that if $I(E_1)$ and $I(E_2)$ are ideals of uniqueness then so is their intersection. This is the motivation behind the present subsection, whose main result, Corollary 4.5, will be obtained as a consequence of the more general Theorem 4.2. We start with a lemma which we believe may be interesting in its own right.

Lemma 4.1. *Let (X, μ) be a standard σ -finite measure space and $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \subseteq T(X)$ be $\mathfrak{S}(X)$ -invariant subspaces. If $\mathcal{S} + \mathcal{T}$ is weak* dense in $T(X)$ then*

$$\overline{\mathcal{S}}^{w*} \cap \overline{\mathcal{T}}^{w*} = \overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}}^{w*}.$$

Proof. The inclusion

$$\overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}^{w*}} \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{S}^{w*}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{T}^{w*}}$$

is trivial. Let $h \in \overline{\mathcal{S}^{w*}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{T}^{w*}}$. Suppose that $X_n \subseteq X$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, are measurable subsets of finite measure, such that $X_n \subseteq X_{n+1}$ for every n and $X = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} X_n$. Since $\chi_{X_n \times X_n} \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$, by weak* continuity we have that

$$\chi_{X_n \times X_n} h \in \overline{\mathcal{S}^{w*}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{T}^{w*}}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Since $\chi_{X_n \times X_n} h \xrightarrow{w*}_{n \rightarrow \infty} h$, it suffices to show that $\chi_{X_n \times X_n} h \in \overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}^{w*}}$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We may thus assume that the measure μ is finite. Note that, in this case, $\mathfrak{S}(X) \subseteq T(X)$, as the constant function 1 is in $T(X)$.

Write $h = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f_i \otimes g_i$, where $(f_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $(g_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are square summable sequences in $L^2(X)$. For $N \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$Y_N = \{x \in X : \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |f_i(x)|^2 \leq N\}$$

and

$$Z_N = \{x \in X : \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |g_i(x)|^2 \leq N\}.$$

Then $(Y_N)_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$ (resp. $(Z_N)_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$) is an ascending sequence whose union has full measure in X . Moreover, $\chi_{Y_N \times Z_N} h \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$, $N \in \mathbb{N}$ (see [17]), and $\chi_{Y_N \times Z_N} h \rightarrow h$ in the norm of $T(X)$. We thus showed that

$$(7) \quad \mathcal{R} \subseteq \overline{\mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{R}}^{\|\cdot\|},$$

for every $\mathfrak{S}(X)$ -invariant subspace \mathcal{R} of $T(X)$; we may hence assume that $h \in \mathfrak{S}(X)$.

By (7), $\overline{\mathcal{S}^{w*}} = \overline{\mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{S}^{w*}}$. Thus, there exists a net $(h_i) \subseteq \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{S}$ such that $h = w^*\text{-}\lim_i h_i$. Since \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{T} are invariant under $\mathfrak{S}(X)$, it follows that if $\psi \in \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{T}$ then

$$\psi h = w^*\text{-}\lim_i \psi h_i \in \overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}^{w*}}.$$

Similarly, if $\varphi \in \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{S}$ then $\varphi h \in \overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}^{w*}}$. Thus,

$$\theta h \in \overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}^{w*}}, \quad \text{for every } \theta \in \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{S} + \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{T}.$$

Inclusion (7) implies that $\mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{S} + \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{T}$ is weak* dense in $T(X)$. Thus, the constant function $\chi_{X \times X}$ is the limit of a net $(\theta_i)_i \subseteq \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{S} + \mathfrak{S}(X) \cap \mathcal{T}$ in the weak* topology of $T(X)$. It follows that $h = \chi_{X \times X} h$ is the limit of the net $(\theta_i h)_i$ in the weak* topology of $T(X)$, and hence $h \in \overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}^{w*}}$. \square

Theorem 4.2. *Let (X, μ) be a standard σ -finite measure space and $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(X))$ be weak* closed masa-bimodules. If $\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{V}$ is a bimodule of uniqueness then*

$$\overline{\mathcal{U} + \mathcal{V}^{w*}} \cap \mathcal{K} = \overline{\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{K}}^{\|\cdot\|}.$$

Proof. Let $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{U}_\perp$ and $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{V}_\perp$. Since \mathcal{U} and \mathcal{V} are weak* closed masa-bimodules, \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{T} are invariant under $\mathfrak{S}(X)$. Furthermore,

$$\overline{\mathcal{S} + \mathcal{T}^{w*}} = (\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{K})^\perp = T(X).$$

It is trivial that

$$\overline{\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{K}}^{\|\cdot\|} \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{U} + \mathcal{V}^{w*}} \cap \mathcal{K}.$$

To show equality, suppose that $h \in T(X)$ annihilates $\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{V} \cap \mathcal{K}$. Then $h \in \overline{\mathcal{S}^{w*}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{T}^{w*}}$ and hence, by Lemma 4.1, $h \in \overline{\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}^{w*}}$. Since each element of $\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}$ annihilates $\overline{\mathcal{U} + \mathcal{V}^{w*}}$, we have that h annihilates $\overline{\mathcal{U} + \mathcal{V}^{w*}} \cap \mathcal{K}$. The proof is complete. \square

Corollary 4.3. *Let (X, μ) be a standard σ -finite measure space and $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(L^2(X))$ be weak* closed masa-bimodules. If \mathcal{U} and \mathcal{V} are bimodules of uniqueness then so is $\overline{\mathcal{U} + \mathcal{V}^{w*}}$.*

Proof. Since \mathcal{U} is a bimodule of uniqueness, so is $\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{V}$. The conclusion now follows from Theorem 4.2. \square

For the rest of this subsection we assume that G is a second countable locally compact group.

Corollary 4.4. *Let J_1 and J_2 be closed ideals of $A(G)$. If $\overline{J_1 + J_2}$ is an ideal of uniqueness then*

$$\overline{\text{Bim}_0(J_1^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)) + \text{Bim}_0(J_2^\perp \cap C_r^*(G))}^{\|\cdot\|} = \text{Bim}_0((J_1 \cap J_2)^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)).$$

Proof. By [1, Corollary 4.4],

$$(8) \quad \overline{\text{Bim}(J_1^\perp) + \text{Bim}(J_2^\perp)}^{w*} = \text{Bim}((J_1 \cap J_2)^\perp)$$

and

$$(9) \quad \text{Bim}(J_1^\perp) \cap \text{Bim}(J_2^\perp) = \text{Bim}((J_1 + J_2)^\perp).$$

By (9), Theorem 3.4 and the assumption that $\overline{J_1 + J_2}$ is an ideal of uniqueness, we have that

$$\text{Bim}(J_1^\perp) \cap \text{Bim}(J_2^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K} = \text{Bim}_0((J_1 + J_2)^\perp \cap C_r^*(G)) = \{0\},$$

that is, $\text{Bim}(J_1^\perp) \cap \text{Bim}(J_2^\perp)$ is a bimodule of uniqueness. By (8) and Theorem 4.2,

$$\text{Bim}((J_1 \cap J_2)^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K} = \overline{\text{Bim}(J_1^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K} + \text{Bim}(J_2^\perp) \cap \mathcal{K}}^{\|\cdot\|}.$$

The claim is now immediate from Theorem 3.4. \square

Corollary 4.5. *Let J_1 and J_2 be ideals of uniqueness of $A(G)$. Then $J_1 \cap J_2$ is an ideal of uniqueness.*

Proof. Since J_1 is an ideal of uniqueness, so is $\overline{J_1 + J_2}$. The claim now follows from Corollary 4.4. \square

It is easy to see that the property of being an ideal of uniqueness is not preserved under countable intersections. For an example, let $G = \mathbb{R}$ and $\{r_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an enumeration of the rationals. Set $J_k = I(\{r_k\})$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $J_k^\perp = \mathbb{C}\lambda_{r_k}$ and hence J_k is an ideal of uniqueness; however, $\cap_{k=1}^\infty J_k = \{0\}$ is not.

We are not aware of the answer of the analogous question for ideals of multiplicity: if $(J_k)_{k=1}^\infty$ is an increasing sequence of closed ideals of multiplicity of $A(G)$, is $\overline{\cup_{k=1}^\infty J_k}$ also an ideal of multiplicity?

4.2. Tensor products. Let G_1 and G_2 be second countable locally compact groups. Suppose that $E_i \subseteq G_i$, $i = 1, 2$, are M -sets (resp. M_1 -sets). It was shown in [19, Corollary 4.14] that, in this case, $E_1 \times E_2$ is an M -set (resp. M_1 -set). We now generalise this fact to closed ideals. We denote by \otimes the algebraic tensor product of vector spaces. Note that $A(G_1) \otimes A(G_2)$ can be considered as a dense subalgebra of the Fourier algebra $A(G_1 \times G_2)$; in fact, the latter can be canonically identified with the operator projective tensor product $A(G_1) \otimes_\wedge A(G_2)$ of $A(G_1)$ and $A(G_2)$ (we refer the reader to [3] for background on this tensor product).

Theorem 4.6. *Let $J_1 \subseteq A(G_1)$ and $J_2 \subseteq A(G_2)$ be closed ideals. Set*

$$J = \overline{J_1 \otimes A(G_2) + A(G_1) \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}.$$

The following are equivalent:

- (i) J_1 and J_2 are ideals of multiplicity;
- (ii) J is an ideal of multiplicity.

Proof. For $v \in A(G_2)$, let

$$L_v : \text{VN}(G_1) \bar{\otimes} \text{VN}(G_2) \rightarrow \text{VN}(G_1)$$

be the Tomiyama left slice map associated with v , defined by the identity

$$\langle L_v(T), u \rangle = \langle T, u \otimes v \rangle, \quad u \in A(G_1)$$

(see e.g. [15]). For $u \in A(G_1)$, let

$$R_u : \text{VN}(G_1) \bar{\otimes} \text{VN}(G_2) \rightarrow \text{VN}(G_2)$$

be the analogously defined right slice map.

Set $\mathcal{X}_i = J_i^\perp$, $i = 1, 2$. Let $\mathcal{X}_1 \bar{\otimes} \mathcal{X}_2$ be the weak* closed spacial tensor product, and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X}_1 \bar{\otimes}_{\mathcal{F}} \mathcal{X}_2 &= \{T \in \mathcal{B}(L^2(G_1 \times G_2)) : R_u(T) \in \mathcal{X}_2, L_v(T) \in \mathcal{X}_1, \\ &\quad \text{for all } u \in A(G_1), v \in A(G_2)\} \end{aligned}$$

be the normal Fubini tensor product (see [15]), of \mathcal{X}_1 and \mathcal{X}_2 . We have

$$(10) \quad \mathcal{X}_1 \bar{\otimes} \mathcal{X}_2 \subseteq (\mathcal{X}_1 \bar{\otimes} \text{VN}(G_2)) \cap (\text{VN}(G_1) \bar{\otimes} \mathcal{X}_2) = J^\perp \subseteq \mathcal{X}_1 \bar{\otimes}_{\mathcal{F}} \mathcal{X}_2.$$

(i) \Rightarrow (ii) Suppose that $T_i \in \mathcal{X}_i \cap C_r^*(G_i)$ is non-zero, $i = 1, 2$. Then, after identifying the minimal tensor product $C_r^*(G_1) \otimes_{\min} C_r^*(G_2)$ with $C_r^*(G_1 \times G_2)$ in the canonical way, we have that $T_1 \otimes T_2$ is a non-zero operator in

$(\mathcal{X}_1 \bar{\otimes} \mathcal{X}_2) \cap C_r^*(G_1 \times G_2)$. Inclusion (10) shows that J is an ideal of multiplicity.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) It suffices, by symmetry, to show that J_1 is an ideal of multiplicity. Suppose, by way of contradiction, that J_1 is an ideal of uniqueness. Recall that every $v \in A(G_2)$ can be viewed as a weak* continuous functional on $VN(G_2)$ and, since $A(G_2)$ is a subspace of the reduced Fourier-Stieltjes algebra $B_r(G_2)$ (see [10]), as a norm continuous functional on $C_r^*(G_2)$. Since L_v is norm continuous, it maps $C_r^*(G_1 \times G_2)$ into $C_r^*(G_1)$. Suppose that T is a non-zero operator in $J^\perp \cap C_r^*(G_1 \times G_2)$. It follows from (10) that $L_v(T) \in \mathcal{X}_1 \cap C_r^*(G_1)$. Since J_1 is an ideal of uniqueness, $L_v(T) = 0$. Thus, for every $u \in A(G_1)$ and every $v \in A(G_2)$, we have

$$\langle T, u \otimes v \rangle = \langle L_v(T), u \rangle = 0$$

and since $A(G_1) \otimes A(G_2)$ is dense in $A(G_1 \times G_2)$, we conclude that $T = 0$, a contradiction. \square

Corollary 4.7. *A closed ideal J_1 of $A(G_1)$ is an ideal of multiplicity if and only if the ideal $\overline{J_1 \otimes A(G_2)}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$ of $A(G_1 \times G_2)$ is an ideal of multiplicity.*

Proof. Immediate from Theorem 4.6 after letting $J_2 = \{0\}$. \square

Theorem 4.8. *Let $J_1 \subseteq A(G_1)$ and $J_2 \subseteq A(G_2)$ be closed ideals. Set*

$$J = \overline{J_1 \otimes A(G_2)}^{\|\cdot\|_A} \cap \overline{A(G_1) \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}.$$

The following are equivalent:

- (i) J_1 and J_2 are ideals of uniqueness;
- (ii) J is an ideal of uniqueness.

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) By Corollary 4.7, $\overline{J_1 \otimes A(G_2)}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$ and $\overline{A(G_1) \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$ are ideals of uniqueness, and by Corollary 4.5, so is J .

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) Set $\mathcal{X}_i = J_i^\perp$, $i = 1, 2$. Note that

$$\overline{VN(G_1) \otimes \mathcal{X}_2 + \mathcal{X}_1 \otimes VN(G_2)}^{w*} \subseteq J^\perp.$$

If $T_1 \in \mathcal{X}_1 \cap C_r^*(G_1)$ and $T_2 \in C_r^*(G_2)$ are non-zero then

$$T_1 \otimes T_2 \in (\mathcal{X}_1 \bar{\otimes} VN(G_2)) \cap C_r^*(G_1 \times G_2)$$

is non-zero, a contradiction with the assumption that J is an ideal of uniqueness. It follows that J_1 is an ideal of uniqueness, and by symmetry, so is J_2 . \square

The Remark after Definition 3.1, Theorem 4.8 and the fact that

$$(11) \quad \overline{J_1 \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A} \subseteq \overline{J_1 \otimes A(G_2)}^{\|\cdot\|_A} \cap \overline{A(G_1) \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$$

show that if $\overline{J_1 \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$ is an ideal of uniqueness then so are J_1 and J_2 . We do not know if the converse is true:

Question 4.9. *If J_1 and J_2 are ideals of uniqueness, is $\overline{J_1 \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$ also an ideal of uniqueness?*

In the next proposition, we give some sufficient conditions which imply an affirmative answer to Question 4.9.

Proposition 4.10. *Let $J_1 \subseteq A(G_1)$, $J_2 \subseteq A(G_2)$ be closed ideals. Assume that G_1 is an amenable locally compact group and J_2 has bounded approximate identity. Then*

$$(12) \quad \overline{J_1 \otimes A(G_2)}^{\|\cdot\|_A} \cap \overline{A(G_1) \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A} = \overline{J_1 \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}.$$

Proof. Let $(a_\alpha)_\alpha$ be a bounded approximate identity for $A(G_1)$, which exists due to the amenability of G_1 , and let $(b_\alpha)_\alpha$ be a bounded approximate identity for J_2 . Let $C > 0$ be such that $\|a_\alpha\| \leq C$ and $\|b_\alpha\| \leq C$ for all α .

Fix $u \in \overline{J_1 \otimes A(G_2)}^{\|\cdot\|_A} \cap \overline{A(G_1) \otimes J_2}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$, and let $u_n \in J_1 \otimes A(G_2)$ and $v_n \in A(G_1) \otimes J_2$ be such that $u = \lim_n u_n = \lim_n v_n$. For every α , we have that $u(a_\alpha \otimes b_\alpha) = \lim_n u_n(a_\alpha \otimes b_\alpha)$ and since $u_n(a_\alpha \otimes b_\alpha) \in J_1 \otimes J_2$, for every n and α , it follows that $u(a_\alpha \otimes b_\alpha) \in \overline{J_1 \otimes J_2}$ for every α .

As $v_n = \lim_\alpha v_n(a_\alpha \otimes b_\alpha)$ for any n , given $\varepsilon > 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $\alpha(n) > 0$ such that $\|v_n - v_n(a_{\alpha(n)} \otimes b_{\alpha(n)})\| < \varepsilon$. Let N be such that $\|u - v_n\| < \varepsilon$ whenever $n \geq N$. If $n \geq N$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - u(a_{\alpha(n)} \otimes b_{\alpha(n)})\| &\leq \|u - v_n\| + \|v_n - v_n(a_{\alpha(n)} \otimes b_{\alpha(n)})\| \\ &\quad + \|v_n(a_{\alpha(n)} \otimes b_{\alpha(n)}) - u(a_{\alpha(n)} \otimes b_{\alpha(n)})\| \\ &\leq \varepsilon + \varepsilon + \varepsilon \|a_{\alpha(n)}\| \|b_{\alpha(n)}\| \leq (C^2 + 2)\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $u \in \overline{J_1 \otimes J_2}$. \square

The conditions specified in Proposition 4.10 are sufficient for (12); it would be of interest to identify necessary conditions as well:

Question 4.11. *What is the most general class of groups G_1 and G_2 for which equality (12) holds for all choices of ideals $J_1 \subseteq A(G_1)$ and $J_2 \subseteq A(G_2)$?*

Let $\mathcal{R}_c(G)$ be the collection of all subsets E of G of the form

$$(13) \quad E = \cup_{i=1}^n (a_i H_i \setminus \cup_{j=1}^{m_i} b_{i,j} K_{i,j}),$$

where $a_i, b_{i,j} \in G$, H_i is a closed subgroup of G and $K_{i,j}$ is an open subgroup of H_i ($n, m_i \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, $1 \leq j \leq m_i$). The family $\mathcal{R}_c(G)$ is known as the closed coset ring of G (see [11]). By [12], if G is an amenable locally compact group and I is a closed ideal of $A(G)$, then I has a bounded approximate identity if and only if $I = I(E)$ for a subset $E \in \mathcal{R}_c(G)$. Note that, by [12], any element E of $\mathcal{R}_c(G)$ is a set of spectral synthesis; hence $I(E)$ is an ideal of uniqueness if and only if E is a set of uniqueness.

Corollary 4.12. *Let G_1, G_2 be amenable second countable locally compact groups, $J_1 \subseteq A(G_1)$ be a closed ideal and E be a subset of the form (13). The following are equivalent:*

- (i) $\overline{J_1 \otimes I(E)}^{\|\cdot\|_A}$ is an ideal of uniqueness;
- (ii) J_1 is an ideal of uniqueness and $m_{G_2}(H_i) = 0$, $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Proof. By Theorem 4.8, Proposition 4.10 and the result stated before the formulation of Corollary 4.12, it suffices to show that $I(E)$ is an ideal of uniqueness if and only if $m_{G_2}(H_i) = 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. Assume that $m_{G_2}(H_i) > 0$ for some i , or, equivalently, that H_i is open. If $m_i = 0$, then since the set $a_i H_i$ is open, $m_{G_2}(a_i H_i) > 0$ and hence $a_i H_i$ and E are not sets of uniqueness (see [19, Remark 4.3]). Let $m_i > 0$. We have

$$a_i H_i \setminus (\cup_{j=1}^{m_i} b_{i,j} K_{i,j}) = a_i (H_i \setminus (\cup_{j=1}^{m_i} a_i^{-1} b_{i,j} K_{i,j})).$$

As $K_{i,j}$ is open in H_i , the set $H_i \setminus (\cup_{j=1}^{m_i} a_i^{-1} b_{i,j} K_{i,j})$ is open and closed in H_i . Hence $m_{H_i}(H_i \setminus (\cup_{j=1}^{m_i} a_i^{-1} b_{i,j} K_{i,j})) > 0$. As $m_{G_2}(H_i) > 0$, by uniqueness of the Haar measure up to a constant, we have $m_{G_2}(\alpha) = C m_{H_i}(\alpha)$ for some constant $C > 0$ and any measurable $\alpha \subseteq H_i$. Hence $m_{G_2}(a_i H_i \setminus (\cup_{j=1}^{m_i} b_{i,j} K_{i,j})) > 0$, giving that $a_i H_i \setminus (\cup_{j=1}^{m_i} b_{i,j} K_{i,j})$ and E are not sets of uniqueness.

Assume now that $m_{G_2}(H_i) = 0$ for any $i = 1, \dots, n$. By [19, Corollary 5.10], H_i is a set of uniqueness. Hence any subset of $a_i H_i$ is a set of uniqueness. Therefore E is a set of uniqueness as a finite union of sets of uniqueness ([18, Proposition 5.3]). \square

Remark 4.13. It has been noted in [23] that, for a connected amenable group G , any set E in $\mathcal{R}_c(G)$ is a set of uniqueness. This also follows from Corollary 4.12, as in this case G does not contain any proper open subgroup.

4.3. Inverse images. In this subsection we establish an inverse image result for ideals of uniqueness.

Theorem 4.14. *Let G and H be locally compact second countable groups with Haar measures m_G and m_H , respectively. Let $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$ be a continuous homomorphism. Assume that the measure $\varphi_* m_G$ is absolutely continuous with respect to m_H . Let J be a closed ideal of $A(H)$ and $\varphi_*(J)$ be the closed ideal of $A(G)$ generated by the set $\{f \circ \varphi : f \in J\}$. The following hold:*

(i) *If φ is injective and has a continuous inverse on $\varphi(G)$, then $\varphi_*(J)$ is an ideal of uniqueness whenever J is so.*

(ii) *If $\varphi_* m_G$ is equivalent to m_H then $\varphi_*(J)$ is an ideal of multiplicity whenever J is so.*

Proof. Let $r : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ be the Radon-Nikodym derivative of $\varphi_* m_G$ with respect to m_H ; thus,

$$m_G(\varphi^{-1}(\alpha)) = \int_{\alpha} r(x) dm_H(x)$$

for every measurable subset $\alpha \subseteq H$. Letting $M = \{x \in H : r(x) = 0\}$, note that

$$m_G(\varphi^{-1}(M)) = \int_M r(x) dm_H(x) = 0.$$

Let $V_\varphi : L^2(H) \rightarrow L^2(G)$ be given by

$$V_\varphi \xi(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\xi(\varphi(x))}{\sqrt{r(\varphi(x))}} & \text{if } x \notin \varphi^{-1}(M), \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in \varphi^{-1}(M). \end{cases}$$

It was shown in [19, Lemma 5.4] that V_φ is a partial isometry with initial space $L^2(M^c, m_H|_{M^c})$. Moreover, if φ is injective then V_φ is surjective.

(i) We have

$$\text{Sat}(\varphi_*(J)) = \overline{[N(\varphi_*(J))T(G)]^{\|\cdot\|_T}};$$

thus, $\text{Sat}(\varphi_*(J))$ is the closed linear span of the functions of the form

$$(s, t) \rightarrow u(\varphi(t)\varphi(s)^{-1})h(s, t),$$

where $u \in J$ and $h \in T(G)$. Let Θ be the linear map on the algebraic tensor product $L^2(H) \otimes L^2(H)$ given by $\Theta(f \otimes g) = V_\varphi f \otimes V_\varphi g$. As V_φ is a partial isometry, Θ can be extended to a contractive map $\Theta : T(H) \rightarrow T(G)$. It was shown in the proof of [19, Theorem 5.5] that if $h \in T(G)$ then

$$\Theta(h)(x, y) = \frac{h(\varphi(x), \varphi(y))}{\sqrt{r(\varphi(x))r(\varphi(y))}}, \quad \text{for m.a.e. } (x, y) \in \varphi^{-1}(M) \times \varphi^{-1}(M),$$

and that the map Θ is the adjoint of the map on $\mathcal{K}(L^2(G))$ sending an element $T \in \mathcal{K}(L^2(G))$ to the operator $V_\varphi^* T V_\varphi$. It follows that Θ is weak* continuous and hence, if $\mathcal{M} \subseteq T(G)$ then $\Theta(\overline{\mathcal{M}}^{w*}) \subseteq \overline{\Theta(\mathcal{M})}^{w*}$.

Suppose that $u \in J$, $\psi \in T(G)$ and $h = N(u)\psi$. Then

$$\Theta(h)(s, t) = \frac{N(f \circ \varphi)(s, t)\psi(\varphi(s), \varphi(t))}{\sqrt{r(\varphi(s))r(\varphi(t))}}, \quad s, t \in G,$$

and so $\Theta(h) \in \text{Sat}(\varphi_*(J))$.

Suppose that J is an ideal of uniqueness. By Corollary 3.5 and Theorem 3.3, $\overline{\text{Sat}(J)}^{w*} = T(H)$. As φ is injective, V_φ is surjective and hence the image of Θ is dense in $T(G)$. We now have

$$T(G) = \overline{\Theta(T(H))}^{\|\cdot\|_T} = \overline{\Theta(\overline{\text{Sat}(J)}^{w*})}^{\|\cdot\|_T} \subseteq \overline{\Theta(\overline{\text{Sat}(J)}^{w*})}^{w*} \subseteq \overline{\text{Sat}(\varphi_*(J))}^{w*};$$

thus, $\overline{\text{Sat}(\varphi_*(J))}^{w*} = T(H)$, and by Corollary 3.5 and Theorem 3.3, $\varphi_*(J)$ is an ideal of uniqueness.

(ii) Suppose that J is an ideal of multiplicity and let T_1 be a non-zero compact operator in $\text{Sat}(J)^\perp$. Let $T = V_\varphi T_1 V_\varphi^*$. As $\varphi_* m_G$ is equivalent to m_H , the set M is m_H -null, and hence $V_\varphi^* V_\varphi = I$. It follows that $T_1 = V_\varphi^* T V_\varphi$ and hence T is a non-zero compact operator.

We claim that, given $h \in T(G)$ and $\phi \in \mathfrak{S}(G)$,

$$(15) \quad (V_\varphi^* \otimes V_\varphi^*)((\phi \circ (\varphi \otimes \varphi))h) = \phi(V_\varphi^* \otimes V_\varphi^*)(h).$$

To see (15), let first $a \in L^\infty(H)$ and $\xi \in L^2(G)$. Then, for every $\eta \in L^2(H)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle V_\varphi^*(a \circ \varphi)\xi, \eta \rangle &= \langle (a \circ \varphi)\xi, V_\varphi \eta \rangle = \int a(\varphi(x)) \frac{\overline{\eta(\varphi(x))}}{\sqrt{r(\varphi(x))}} \xi(x) dm_G(x) \\ &= \langle \xi, V_\varphi \bar{a} \eta \rangle = \langle M_a V_\varphi^* \xi, \eta \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $V_\varphi^*(a \circ \varphi)\xi = M_a V_\varphi^* \xi$, and it follows that (15) holds whenever ϕ and h are elementary tensors. By linearity, it holds whenever $\phi \in L^\infty(G) \otimes L^\infty(G)$ and $h \in L^2(G) \otimes L^2(G)$.

Now suppose that $h = \sum_{i=1}^\infty f_i \otimes g_i$, where $(f_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $(g_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are square summable sequences in $L^2(G)$. Setting $h_k = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i \otimes g_i$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we have that $\|h - h_k\|_T \rightarrow 0$ and the continuity of Schur multiplication and that of the operator $V_\varphi^* \otimes V_\varphi^*$ imply that (15) holds for every $h \in T(G)$ and every $\phi \in L^\infty(G) \otimes L^\infty(G)$. Finally, if ϕ is arbitrary, it is the limit in the Schur multiplier norm of a sequence $(\phi_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ in $L^\infty(G) \otimes L^\infty(G)$. Since $\phi_k \circ (\varphi \otimes \varphi) \rightarrow \phi \circ (\varphi \otimes \varphi)$ in the Schur multiplier norm, (15) is established in full generality.

Let now $u \in J$, $\psi \in T(G)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T, (N(u) \circ (\varphi \otimes \varphi))\psi \rangle &= \langle T_1, (V_\varphi^* \otimes V_\varphi^*)(N(u) \circ (\varphi \otimes \varphi))\psi \rangle \\ &= \langle T_1, N(u)(V_\varphi^* \otimes V_\varphi^*)(\psi) \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $T \in \text{Sat}(\varphi_*(J))^\perp$, and by Corollary 3.5 and Theorem 3.3, $\varphi_*(J)$ is an ideal of multiplicity. \square

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